

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Takehiro Nishiie	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No:	To be assigned	Art Unit:	Unassigned
Filed:	Herewith	Docket:	17271
For:	FLEXIBLE TUBE OF ENDOSCOPE AND ENDOSCOPE	Dated:	November 26, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 2231-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,634,880, dated June 3, 1997, issued to Feldman et al.;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 10-276968, published October 20, 1998 together with an English language abstract; and
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-157484, published June 13, 2000 together with an English language abstract.

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Date of Deposit: November 26, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

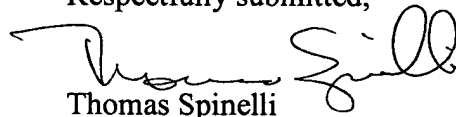
Dated: November 26, 2003


Thomas Spinelli

Applicant is submitting a copy of reference 2 and 3. Reference 1 is not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of reference 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", written over the printed name.

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

